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Manometiana

Number Four

or, a Collection of the Epitaphs of the "Old Burial Hill," Plymouth Manomet, Mass.

Compiled by

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Pastor Second Congregational Church in Plymouth
Manomet, Mass.

Plymouth, Mass.
1899

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To
Mr. Cornelius Briggs,
who, like Cornelius of old,
is truly devout and fears God, and is one of the
"pillars" of the Church of Christ in Manomet,
this book is lovingly dedicated
by
his pastor.

We speak of a Merry Christmas.
And many a Happy New Year:
But each in his heart is thinking
Of those that are not here.

—*Longfellow.*

INTRODUCTION.

Two things have induced me to preserve in pamphlet-form the epitaphs in the Old Burial Hill in Manomet, Plymouth. One is the great value of the cemetery as to its age, situation, and memories associated with it, and the other is the inherent worth of the inscriptions replete with sound, Christian sentiments, which have always characterized New England.

The burial ground above-mentioned is undoubtedly the second oldest cemetery (for white people) on Plymouth soil. There is no way, however, by which the date of the first interment can be ascertained. The oldest epitaph bears the date of 1717. But judging by the fact that Manomet or South Plymouth was settled in 1639, only 19 years after the landing of the Pilgrims, we can be sure that this venerable cemetery was in use long before 1717, perhaps not many years after 1639.

The cemetery has an enviable situation on the crest of a hill, which is literally covered with shapely cedars reminding one of the cedar-crowned hills of Lebanon. It is in full view of Massachusetts Bay, which must have been a part of the route of that famous craft, the Mayflower, bringing in her precious cargo of humanity.

There one can listen to the incessant music of the majestic ocean, the lap-lapping of the waves in calm weather, and the roaring of the billows in the times of storm.

There the zephyr has its headquarters and the Boreas its rendezvous.

No other spot on Plymouth soil is better fitted to be "God's acre" than this piece of ground hallowed by the memories of the past.

Some of the epitaphs are highly interesting specimens of the art of sepulchral inscription of years gone by. With all their orthographical, grammatical and accidental errors, with their crude engravings of lachrymatories or "tear-bottles," with their skulls, and crossbones, and weeping-willows, and finally with their ungainly chirography, they present to the eye as attractive a collection as any archeologist would desire to behold.

I have made no attempt at editing these epitaphs. I have copied every inscription in the cemetery, excepting three which are undecipherable. The epitaphs in this pamphlet are, therefore, the true —*verbatim et literatim et punctuatim*—pictures of the originals, minus the picturesque appearance of some of the engravings.

The inherent value of the inscriptions lies in the sentiments they express. Read the unartistic rhymes; note the Scriptural quotations, and give attention to the different unpolished sentiments, and you will at once be able to form an approximate idea of the character of the men and

women in whose memory these records have been preserved.

Living in and with Christ; dying in Christ with an indescribable joy; being transformed into the image of the Saviour; submission to God's will; devotion to Christ; salvation by grace and through watchfulness for the last hour; and finally, a firm belief in the immortality of the soul and in a blissful existence beyond this life—these are some of the indications that give us an insight into the character of the glorified dead of Manomet. It was the spirit dominant in these men and women of God, these heroes and heroines in home-spun, that have electrified—I was almost saying *Yankeefied*—not only every section of this country, but of the whole world. It was this spirit that under God made America what it is to-day.

May the enviable name they have transmitted to their posterity ever remain unblemished, and the goodly heritage they have submitted to their care be kept untarnished is the earnest prayer of

HAIG ADADOURIAN,

The Compiler.

Parsonage, Manomet, Plymouth, Mass., December 25, 1899.

POSTSCRIPT.

A word explanatory of the title of this booklet is not out of place here. I have already published three pamphlets concerning Manomet. The first is a sermon entitled, "If Jesus Came to Manomet," the second contains the proceedings of the one hundred and sixtieth anniversary celebration of the Church of Christ in Manomet, and the third is a repository of the obituaries of some Manomet people.

Following the order of publication, I have christened this fourth booklet with the title of "Manometiana Number Four." The word *Manometiana* is neither a lexicon word, nor a colloquial expression. It is a term improvised for the occasion by

The Compiler.

NECROLOGY.

How beautiful it is for a man to die
Upon the walls of Zion! to be called
Like a watch-worn and weary sentinel,
To put his armour off, and rest in heaven.
NATHANIEL PARKER WILLIS.

HERE LYES Ye BODY
OF BENJAMIN
BARTLET AGED
39 YEARS DIED
March Ye 11 1717

HERE LYES BURIED YE
BODY OF DEACON THOMAS
CLARKE WHO DEC. MARCH
YE 20th 1726-7
ÆTATIS 68
MANY THAT NOW ARE
FAST ASLEEP IN DUST
OF the EARTH REMAIN
SOME TO EVER
LASTING LIFE. AWAKE
FROM THENCE AGAIN
DAN Ye 12 & Ye 2d

BODY OF EBENEZER
SILVESTER DECd
FEB Ye 22d
1729 30 IN
ye 22d YEAR
OF HIS AGE

HERE LYES Ye BODY
OF
MRS LYDIA RIDER
WIDOW OF mr SAML
RIDER SHE DECd
SEPbr ye 17th
1740 IN
ye 83 YEAR
OF HER AGE

IN MEMORY OF CAPt
JOSEPH BARTLETT
WHO DEPARTED THIS
LIFE JULY Ye 13
1756 IN Ye 64th
YEAR OF HIS AGE.
Job 19th 26
Although by Worms
destroy this body be
yet in my flesh
I surely god shall see.

(footstone) Capt
JOSEPH
BARTLETT
WHO DECd JULY
Ye 13th 1756

IN MEMORY OF
MRS MERCY
BLACKMER DAU.
OF MR. JOHN &
SARAH BLAC
KMER
WHO DIED SEPt Ye 23
1765 IN Ye 23
YEAR OF HER LIFE

(footstone) M B
1765

In Memory of Mrs
ELIZABETH BARTLET
WIFE of Capt JOSEPH
BARTLETT
who Departed this
life January the 10th
AD 1773 in the 73 year
of her Age.

In memory of
Mr. Jonathan Harlow.
who died
June 1785
in his 66 year.

(footstone) J Harlow

In Memory of
Lois Holbrook Daughter of
Mr Naaman & Mrs Mary
Holbrook , who died June 9
1786 in ye 13 year of her age
Amidst these solemn heaps of fate
Lie young & old, the small & great,
But all with sober accent cry
Think mortals what it is to die.

(footstone) L H
1786

In Memory of
Mrs ABIGAIL DILLINGHAM
Consort of
Mr BRANCH DILLINGHAM
and Daur to Capt JOHN &
Mrs MARCY BARTLETT
who died March 19th 1792,
in the 29th Year of her Age
also in Memory of
Mr JOHN BARTLETT
Brother to the Decd who died at sea
Febry 6th 1790,
In the 24th Year
of his Age.

(footstone) Mrs.
ABIGAIL DILLINGHAM
1792

in memory of
Mrs. Sarah wife of
Mr. Jonathan Harlow.
who died May 1794
in her 73 year.

In Memory of
Mrs SARAH BARTLETT
wife of
Mr ANDREW BARTLETT Jur
who died May 31. 1794 in ye
23 year of her age.
Beneath these clods in silent dust,
I sleep where all the living must,
The gayest youth, the fairest face
Must shortly sleep in this dark place.

(footstone) Mrs Sarah Bartlett
1794

To the memory of
Dean JOHN BLACKMER
who died Sept 28 AD 1794
Aged 84
With silent steps he meekly trac'd the way
To the bright relms of love his wished abode
Nor did he ask a moment's longer stay
When the last summons call'd his soul to god.

(footstone) J B
1794

Memento mortis
In memory of
Mr. William Ellis Jun, who
died Jan 15 1795. Aged 76
years wanting 6 Days.
A husband kind and good, a parent dear
To all obliging & to all sincere
True to his God, the orphans friend
He lived beloved and lamented di'd.

(footstone) Mr.
William Ellis

To the memory of
MRS BETSEY CLARK
wife of
MR JOHN CLARK
who died March 21, 1795 age 21 years
Beneath this stone in silent dust i lay,
Watching the summons of the rising day
When gabriel sounds that awful glorious sound
Arise ye dead, with joy i'll meet the lord.

(footstone) B C
1795

Memento mortis.
In Memory of
Mr. Lemuel Cornish, Son of
Mr. Benjamin Cornish & Mrs.
Rhoda his wife who died May
2d 1795 Aged 21 years 2. M.

(footstone) Mr.
Lemuel Cornish

JACOB JOHNSON
died June 7, 1798
aged 63 years.
"The path of glory leads but to the grave."

To the memory of
Mrs Betsey Johnston
Wife of
Mr Jacob Johnston
Died December 4 1799
In the 25 year of her age
As you are now so once was I
As I am now so you must be
Prepare for Death to follow me

(footstone) B J
1799

In Memory of
Cap. Zacheus Bartlett
who died
sixth day of March
1800
aged seventy five
Peaceable & without an enemy

(footstone) Z B
1800

In Memory of
Lieut Thomas Ellis
he died April
ye 18th 1800 in
his 38 year
When friends do part
Or where there graves do fall
It Matters not
To tie in Christ is all.

(footstone) Lieu.
Thomas
Ellis.

Abigail
daur of
Capt. Hosea Bartlett
& Mrs. Mercy his
wife died Sepr 26
1800 Aged 1 yr
5 mos & 26 ds

CORNELIUS MOREY
died April 6, 1803,
Æ. 45 years

JERUSHA MOREY
his widow
died Nov. 21, 1848,
Æ. 89 years.
Our flesh shall slumber in the ground
Till the last trumpets joyful sound
Then burst the bars with sweet surprise
And in our Saviour's image rise.

(footstone) C. M. & J. M.

In Memory of
Mrs Patience widow
of Mr William
Ellis she died
May 8
1803 in her
84th year

(footstone) Mrs
Patience
Ellis

In Memory of
Mr Seth Holmes,
who died Oct. 1803
in his 68 year.

(footstone)
Mr.
Seth Holmes.

In memory of
Rev. IVORY HOVEY
who died Novr 4. 1803
in ye 90 year of his age.
By faith he lived, by faith he died,
CHRIST was his portion, theme and guide,
In precept and example shone.
With love to GOD and love to man
His daily course of action ran,
Till GOD, his Saviour, called him home.

In Memory of
Mr Nathaniel
Cornish who died
June 5th 1804
in the 60th year
of his Age

(footstone)
Mr
Nathaniel
Cornish

In memory of
Mr. William Serjent
who died June 18 1804 in
his 79 year

In Memory of
Mr George Bartlett
who died Aug 14, 1804
aged 36 years

(footstone) G. B
1804.

Lucy
dau of
Rev. Seth Stetson
& Mrs. Lucy his wife
died Nov. 27, 1804
aged 4 mths & 17 ds.

Mrs. Hannah Clark
wife of
Mr. James Clark
was born Sept 17 1727
died Feb 26 1805
The tender pure and loving wife
Hath now resigned her mortal life
We mourn the loss but yet trust
She dwells rejoicing with the just.

(footstone) Mrs.
Hannah Clark

Mrs. OLIVER HOVEY
Widº of
Rev. IVORY HOVEY
died June 8 1805 in her
84 year
Thus long in wisdom's ways she trod
Bless'd with Christ's presence here,
Until prepar'd to meet her GOD,
He call'd her to appear.

(footstone) Mrs. O. Hovey.

In memory of
Mr. SETH CLARK
who died June 11 1805
In his 40 year.

(footstone) Mr.
Seth Clark

In
Memory of
Margaret Bartlett
widow of
Zacheus Bartlett,
who died
June the thirtieth
1805
aged seventy three

(footstone) M B
1805

In memory of
Mrs Lucy Holmes
Consort of
Mr Bartlett Holmes
who Died Decr 18 1805
in the 63 year
of her age.
The Christian's hope established by grace
No tryals shake it nor no clouds efface
Thus firm believing in her God was still
And bowed submission to his sovereign will

(footstone) L H
1805

In memory of
Mr. John Clark who
died December 29th
1806 Aged 35
Year and 7 Day
Death by the ruins of the fall
Doth reign and triumph over all
But as it is decreed by GOD
Let mourners bow and kiss the rod.

(footstone) Mr.
John Clark

To
the memory of
Mr Bartlett Holmes
who
Died April 5 1808
in the 65 year
of his age

(footstone) . B H
1808

To
memory of
Mr Andrew Bartlett
who died
Decmr 9th 1808
aged
77 years

(footstone) A B
1808

JOHN BARTLETT
1736—1809
MERCY,
His wife
1737—1796.

There is rest in Heaven.
Erected
to the memory of
MRS. ANNE BARTLETT,
Consort of
Deacon Abner Bartlett,
& dau^tr of the late
Rev^d Ivory Hovey;
who died Sep^r 22,
1810, Aged 55
years, 10 months,
& 16
days

The God who gave me children here,
And in affection made them near
With love toward my partner great;
Yet when my Jesus spake the word
I freely gave them back to God.

(footstone) Mrs. Anne
Bartlett.

In memory of
Cornelius Morey 3
who died May 11, 1813
in the 25 year
of his age
Also in memory of
his oldest Son Cornelius
who died Janu^{y} 31 1812
aged 10 months & 12 days
Also in memory of
James H Morey who died
August 28, 1812 aged one day
Why do we mourn departing friends
Or shake at death's alarms?
Tis but the voice which JESUS sends
To call them to his arms.

(footstone) C M
1813
C M
1812
J H M
1812

To
the memory of
M^{r} NATHAN HOLMES
who died March 8
1812
in the 24 year of his age

(footstone) N H
1812

ERECTED
In Memory of
JOSIAH CLARK
Departed this life
May 23, 1813,
in the 34 year
of his age

Receive O earth this faded form
In thy cold bosom let it lie,
Safe let it rest from ev,ry storm
Soon must it rise no more to die.

(footstone) J. C.

This
Stone is erected
to the memory of
DEACON ABNER BARTLETT
Who
was born March 2. 1755
and
Died October 28 1813
Mortals prepare eternity's at hand
GOD is your Judge, and you are in his hand
Be reconciled and own his ways are Just
Adore his will and on him lean and trust

(footstone) D A B
1813

HANNAH JOHNSON
wife of
JACOB JOHNSON
died Sept. 14 1814,
aged 71 years
Friends and Physicians could not save,
My mortals boddy from the grave,
Nor can the grave confine me here,
When Christ shall call me to appear.

In Memory of
Mr. JAMES CLARK
who died
Feb. 5, 1815 in his
93 year

(footstone) Mr.
James Clark.

This Stone is Erected
to consecrate the memory of
Mrs. Sally Holbrook, Consort of
Cap. Gideon Holbrook
who died March 1 1818
aged 33 years
Alas and has she gone, and has she fled,
Gone to the mansions of the dead
She is gone we trust to Join the Joy on high
With saints and angels o'er the starry sky.

(footstone) S H.

In memory of
JOHN CORNISH,
who died
May 21, 1818,
aged 84 years.
Also his four wives
LYDIA.
SARAH.
PHEBE.
& BETSEY.

(footstone) J. C.

In memory of
Mrs. Lucy Clark
wife of
Mr. James Clark
who died
Sept[t] 24 1818
aged 52 years

(footstone) L C
1818

In memory of
Lewis Clark
Son of
Mr James Clark,
who died
September 25, 1818
aged 15 years
& 8 months.

(footstone) L C
1818

In memory of
Mrs. Thankful Holmes
Widow of Calvin Holmes
Deceas'd,
who died
October 7, 1818,
aged 26 years

(footstone) T H

1818
In memory of
David Clark,
Son of
Mr. James Clark,
who died
October 25, 1818
aged 18 years
& 5 months.

(footstone) D C

1818
In memory of
Hannah Clark
Daughter of
Mr. James Clark
who died
October 25 1818

(footstone) H C
1818

This Stone is Erected
to consecrate the memory of
Miss Mary Holbrook Daughter of
Cap Gideon Holbrook and
Mrs. Sally his wife
who died January 13 1819
Aged seventeen years 3 months
Farewell bright Soul, a short farewell
Till we shall meet again above,
In the sweet grave where pleasures dwell
And trees of life bear fruits of Love.
(footstone) M H
1819

In memory of
Sarah Drew Stetson
Daughter of
Rev Seth Stetson
& Mrs Lucy his wife
who died June 3 1820
Aged 8 years
8 months & 9 days
Death thou has conquer'd me
And by thee I am slain,
But Jesus Christ hath conquer'd thee,
And I shall rise again.

(footstone) S D S

In
memory of
Mr James Clark,
who
died May 6, 1821
aged 58 years
& 7 months

(footstone) J C
1821

FREEMAN CORNISH,
died
Jan. 30. 1822;
Æ. 39 y'rs.

Jesus can make a dying bed,
Feel soft as downy pillows are.
Whilst on his breast I lean my head,
And breathe my life out sweetly there.

(footstone) F. C.

Sacred
to the memory of
REV. MOSES PARTRIDGE
Who was ordained April
21, 1824, as pastor of the
2d Church in Plymouth &
died Sept. 25, 1824
aged 36 years & 18 days.
Having been a devoted missionary
& an able, faithfull, & affectionate
Minister of Christ, he died dee-
ply lamented with a HOPE
full of immortality.
"Mark the perfect man; and behold the upri-
ght; for the end of that man is peace."

(footstone) Æ. 36.

Dea:
BENJAMIN CORNISH
died
Feb. 15, 1825
Æ 60 y's. 1 mo.

EXPERIENCE
Widow of the above
died Feb. 12, 1846.
Æ 75 y'rs.
When Christ, who is our life shall appear
Then shall ye, also appear with him in glory.

(footstone) B. C.

ANNA BARTLETT
wife of
Joseph Bartlett Esq
died May 21, 1826,
aged 66 years.

The cold beneath the dampy sod
Thy limbs in peaceful slumber lie
Thy spirit secks A gracious GOD
And flits its passage through the sky.

(footstone) A B.

SETH CLARK
died
June 5, 1828,
aged 61 y.rs.
Friends & Physicians could not save
This mortal Body from the grave.

(footstone) S. C.

SETH CLARK Jr
died
April 10, 1831
Aged 40 y.rs
& 10 mon.

(footstone) S. C. Jr.

HARRIET
wife of
Nath[l] Clark
died
Sept. 23, 1831,
aged 33 years
& 7 mon.

(footstone) H. C.

CATHARINE,
wife of
Israel Clark,
died
Feb. 22, 1832,
aged 29 y.rs & 10 mo.
My days were as the grass,
Or like the morning flower.

(footstone) C. C.

ABBEY C.
Daug. of John
& Meriah Cornish,
died April 23, 1834,
Aged 2 years
& 8 mon.
Yes, the fair flowers nipped in the bud
Nor was it left to bloom at even;
Transplanted from this earthly clod,
That it may bloom bright in heaven.

(footstone) A. C. Cornish.

JOSEPH BARTLETT ESO. *
died December 21,
1834,
aged 74 years.

What joy must heave that breast of thine
To quit this jarring earthly sphere
When the full chorus all divine
Breaks in loud rapture on the ear.

(footstone) J B.

In memory of
THOMAS CORNISH,
died April 19, 1838,
Aged 80 y'rs.
Also his Wife
JERUSHA,
died April 6th 1825,
in her 66th year.

(footstone) T. C.
J. C.

CHARLES PETERSON,
Born
Nov. 11, 1788,
died
Nov. 17, 1845,
Aged 57 y'rs 6 da's.

(footstone) C. P.

*Meant for "E S Q." (The compiler).

SYLVESTER *

MATILDA *

BETSEY THOMAS
Dau. of
Charles & Thankful
Peterson,
Born March. 17, 1815,
Died Nov. 22, 1851,
Aged 36 y'rs 8 mo's.
5 days.

(footstone) B. T. P.

REV.
CLARK CORNISH
died
Feb. 15, 1852
Æ. 69.

"By grace are ye saved."
(footstone) C. C.

*Sylvester is Charles Peterson's son, and Matilda is Sylvester Peterson's wife. (The compiler).

ELIZABETH D. F.
daughter of
Clark & Betsey.
Cornish.
died July 4, 1854.
aged 27 years.

God will redeem my soul
from the power of the grave.

(footstone) E. D. F. C.

EUNICE
widow of
Seth Clark;
died
Feb. 22, 1856;
Æ 89 y'rs.

In life how dear,
how blest in Death.

(footstone) E. C.

CAPT. LABAN COFFIN,
Died at St. Michaels,
Western Islands, 1814,
Aged 50 y'rs.
ABIGAIL,
his wife,
Died Aug. 20, 1857,
Aged 91 y'rs.

(footstone) L. C.
A. C.

SARAH HARLOW,
died
Oct. 9, 1860;
Æ.73 y'rs.

Why do we mourn departing friends,
Or shake at deaths arlarm,
'Tis but the voice that Jesus sends,
To call us to his arms.

(footstone) S. H.

MARY
wife of
SETH CLARK,
died Feb. 2, 1862,
aged 99 y'rs.
9 mo's. 15 da's.
"To her, Christ was precious."

(footstone) M. C.

THANKFUL CLARK,
widow of
Charles Peterson,
Born April 26, 1793,
Died April 10, 1863,
Aged 69 y'rs 11 mo's.
15 days.

(footstone) T. C. P.

LAURA,
wife of
DEA. ISRAEL CLARK,
died Sept. 21, 1871.
aged 78 y'rs
8 mo's.

(footstone) L. C.

NATHANIEL CLARK
died
Jan. 9, 1874,
aged 81 yrs.
4 mo's.

(footstone) N. C.

MARY C,
wife of
Nathaniel Clark
died
Mar. 7, 1883,
aged 86 y'rs.
1 mo.

DEA.
ISRAEL CLARK.
Died
Nov. 2, 1884
aged 90 y'rs.
3 mo's.

(footstone) I. C.

CYNTHIA HOLMES
DIED
Sept. 25, 1888,
Aged 71 y'rs. 1 mo.
9 days.

Asleep in Jesus.

(footstone) C. H.

PD 181

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